

LT. GOVERNOR JOHN GARAMENDI ISSUES STATEMENT HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CESAR CHAVEZ

Sacramento - Lt. Governor John Garamendi issued the following statement in honor of Cesar Chavez Day.

“The life of Cesar Chavez represents a uniquely American story and moreover, his story embodies the strength and determination that is the California experience. Born in poverty, Cesar Chavez worked in the fields of California’s Central Valley and ultimately became the leader of a movement that not only represented those laboring in the orchards, and fields of our state, but was also a voice for all working men and women who wake up everyday determined to build a better future for themselves and their children.

“In celebration of Cesar Chavez, we must always remember the issues that he fought for; fair wages, decent working conditions, and the right of workers to organize. Today our state still faces these same issues and for many the California Dream seems harder to reach.

“We still battle with wage inequality as the gap between the CEO and the average worker continues to grow to unprecedented levels. Families continue to struggle to obtain basic healthcare and the cost of our public universities have soared, making it harder for the next generation to reach their full potential.

“Through the many struggles for fairness and justice, we know we can count on organized labor to be at the forefront of the fight. Whether for universal healthcare, retirement security or wage equity, Californians know that labor is fighting for every working family, just as Cesar Chavez did.

“So, it is on this day, that we must remember the past, and the many struggles and hardships that have been endured to keep the promise of the California dream within reach. And as we look forward, we must all strive to maintain the determination and optimism that made Cesar Chavez a great man for all times.”

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